

When Senator Nickles finished his term as majority whip, I was thrilled that Katie agreed to join me as my first deputy staff director of the Republican policy committee. In that capacity, she quickly became my eyes and ears here in the Capitol Building, tracking the ins and outs of floor activity, representing the RPC within the leadership, and doing everything she could to ensure that only the best policy—good, conservative Republican policy—became law. As one of her many duties, you may recall that she developed our RPC “getaway” materials and stood over by the side door to my right and handed them to Republican Senators after the last vote of the week.

Katie quickly earned my trust, as I know she had earned the trust of Senator Nickles before me. So it was an easy decision to promote Katie to staff director of the RPC in June 2006. She had experience in a broad range of policy areas and she understood the pulse of this body better than most ever will. My staff has enormous respect for her, and she is a natural leader.

Katie's departure coincides with the end of my 4 years chairing the Senate Republican policy committee, a job I have enjoyed immensely. I want to thank Katie for the consistently good work product she helped us achieve during these past 4 years. She has inspired other staff members of the committee to achieve a level of excellence that, I believe, has been of great value to Senators and their staffers. My goal, since day one, was to make sure we produced a first-rate product—thorough, accurate, and reliable. Katie understood this, and she made sure it happened. And so we both depart the policy committee—I for the chairmanship of the Republican Conference and she for the Oklahoma State House—I believe we have left it well-prepared and well-armed for the future.

Let me share a few words about Katie personally. We all know Katie to be bright, quick-witted, fiercely loyal, and genuinely warm to those around her. She is a true patriot who cares deeply for this Nation and the Senate, and I know she is proud to have served here for the past 9½ years. She loves and reveres this institution, even its eccentricities. For example, a former colleague of hers remembers fondly how irritated Katie can become when the decorum of the Senate is offended, even when it is a Senator who fails to take seriously the Senate Chamber's dress code.

When contacted a few days ago, Katie's former boss, Senator Don Nickles, had this to say about her: “Katie brought a great deal of professionalism and enthusiasm into both the Whip office and Policy Committee. She will certainly be missed.”

Eric Ueland, now chief of staff to Majority Leader FRIST, worked with Katie for several years in the Nickles whip office. He said: “No one should ever mistake Katie's grace and charm for

indifference to conservative philosophy or Republican ideology, because within her beats the heart of a lion and the ferocity of a tiger. Katie always harnesses the very best from her colleagues to bring creative solutions to bear. She always seeks to suggest the best way forward to do credit not just to the Senators she serves, but to the values that brought them to Washington.”

One more accolade. Dave Schiappa, the secretary for the majority, who handles all floor operations for the Republicans and who has worked with Katie for many years, had this to say: “Over my 22 years, I have had the privilege to work with a great number of intelligent and dedicated people. Katie Altshuler is one of those shining stars and has set a standard of professionalism and devotion to the Senate as an institution.”

I wish Katie could be convinced to stay and help us in the Senate, but I know that the pull of home and of new challenges is a strong one, and I wish her well in her new endeavors. So, Katie, my best wishes to you as you take up your new line of duty, and on behalf of the Senate, I commend you for your excellent work. Thank you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH BIRTHDAY OF CLAUDE WOOD

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, earlier this week, Claude Wood celebrated his centennial. His name is familiar to several long-serving Members of this body, for he was the chief of staff to one of the Senate's giants, Clinton Anderson of New Mexico. For all of Senator Anderson's career in this Chamber, Claude was at his right hand.

A native New Mexican, he served our State, our Nation, and the Senate with distinction and honor. He retains an active interest in what we do here and is a great friend of the Senate Historian, Richard Baker. I myself have known Claude for many years and am very glad to have this opportunity to send him best wishes on this milestone birthday.●

IN MEMORIAM: BEBE MOORE CAMPBELL

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I offer a few words in observance of the passing of novelist Bebe Moore Campbell, a most influential American writer and a leading advocate for people living with mental illness.

I extend my deepest sympathy and most sincere condolences to Ms. Campbell's family, especially her husband, Ellis Gordon, Jr.; her mother, Doris Moore; and her daughter and stepson, Maia and Ellis Gordon III. My thoughts and prayers go out to them as they struggle with the death of a woman they loved dearly.

In an illustrious career spanning 20 years, Bebe Moore Campbell was an ex-

traordinarily perceptive author who tirelessly explored the American experience through a variety of perspectives. Growing up in both the North and the South in the 1950s and 1960s, she experienced first hand the numerous ways in which fear and hatred are manifested in the form of racial segregation and oppression. She learned about living amid injustice, about the rage and sorrow it imparts, and about the dignity and resolve required to overcome it.

Ms. Campbell drew much of her inspiration and strength from the strong bond she had with her parents. Her second book, “Sweet Summer: Growing Up With and Without My Dad,” is a loving tribute to the warmth of extended family and friends, the strong women in her life who helped mold her character, and the heroic example of her father, whose perseverance after a car accident left him a paraplegic taught her courage and independence. The importance of family dynamics would be a guiding theme in Ms. Campbell's work and stimulated her interest in the intricate nature of relationships.

As Ms. Campbell continued to explore the parent-child relationship, she also delved into the complexities that exist between and within genders, races, and communities. She produced two critically acclaimed novels in the first half of the 1990s set against the backdrop of historical instances of racial violence: “Your Blues Ain't Like Mine” and “Brothers and Sisters.”

In these novels, Ms. Campbell explored the issues of race, class, and gender and personalized them in the form of characters we related to and cared for. Courageous and exceptionally talented, she captured the social and historical forces that cut through out society and divide us. She graphically demonstrated how America's racial, economic, and gender fault lines cut through the lives of individuals, often forcing people into difficult and painful conflicts with others as well as themselves.

Ms. Campbell focused in her later writings on the issue of mental illness. With passion and emotional depth, she explored the horrible consequences of mental illness and the strain that it places on those who love and depend on people suffering from a mental condition. Her work has helped to raise our Nation's consciousness about the issue and has made an invaluable contribution to our society's efforts to improve the lives of people living with mental illness. Ms. Campbell was a founding member of the Inglewood branch of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, and her children's book “Sometimes My Mother Gets Angry” won that organization's Outstanding Literature Award for 2003.

In her work, Ms. Campbell illustrated how oppression and injustice dehumanizes everyone involved. She challenged and inspired us to examine our preconceptions and fears and to open our hearts and minds to those around us.

Her powerful voice will be dearly missed, but her legacy cannot be diminished. I am confident that her spirit will carry on in the countless others whose lives she has touched.●

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOHN C. CARMICHAEL

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a special anniversary year for a true patriot, a great American and fellow Georgian, Captain John C. Carmichael, U.S. Navy, Retired. Friends and family back home on St. Simon's Island know him as Jack.

As a teenager, Jack Carmichael had aspirations of attending West Point, his desire being to follow in the great GEN Robert E. Lee's footsteps. However, his father died in 1928 when he was only 14 years old, leaving his two younger brothers and his mother Kate with heavy hearts and tough decisions. At the time, they were living in Jacksonville, FL. Kate did not think that schools in Jacksonville or Waycross, GA, where they had lived and from where Jack's father hailed, were adequate to prepare him for the academic rigors of the service academies; therefore, she made the decision to move the family to Washington, DC, to live with two aunts in order for Jack to acquire the requisite education. He attended Western High School and several military academy preparatory schools. During that time he became reacquainted with his cousin, John Harllee, who convinced him that the Naval Academy was the better path, so Jack reset his goal for Annapolis.

Unfortunately, his Georgia Congressman did not have any available Naval Academy slots, so he was referred to a Pennsylvania congressman. However, that Congressman only had a West Point slot, so the gentlemen referred him to a Congressman in Oklahoma who was able to sponsor Jack to attend the Naval Academy.

Jack's 4 years at the Naval Academy were fast and rewarding, helped along by his dear friend and roommate, John Court. Jack graduated on June 4, 1936, one of 242 graduates, the smallest graduating class since 1900.

During his career as a naval officer, Jack held various assignments both at sea and ashore. He served in World War II with the 5th Fleet and married his wife, Elizabeth Gordon Ellyson, on October 25, 1944, in San Francisco. "Gordie," the name his wife goes by, was the daughter of the reputed naval aviator, Theodore Gordon "Spuds" Ellyson.

Jack retired from the Navy in July of 1966 after 30 years of distinguished service. He moved Gordie and his family from Key West, FL, to St. Simon's Island, back to the nostalgic cottage of his youth within close proximity to the wonderful lighthouse. Jack and Gordie have enjoyed a full life and traveled much since then, but their center is St. Simon's Island and the quaint cottage they affectionately call "Homeport."

Mr. President, it is indeed an honor and a pleasure to recognize this accomplished fellow Georgian from the "greatest generation," some 70 years after his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy. He is the consummate patriot and citizen, and his distinguished and noteworthy service to our Nation is laudable.●

ALLAN ROSENFELD GLOBAL HEALTH FELLOWSHIP

● Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, today I honor Dr. Allan Rosenfield, Dean of the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, as well as introduce the training program named in his honor.

Dr. Rosenfield has spent his career working to improve the health and well-being of our most vulnerable populations. He has been a champion of women's health both in United States and around the world and is well known for his work on the HIV/AIDS pandemic, innovative family planning studies, and strategies to address the tragedy of wholly preventable maternal deaths in resource-poor countries. As dean and professor of the Mailman School of Public Health, Dr. Rosenfield has been, for the past 20 years, a mentor for several generations of educators, public health students, and researchers.

Dr. Rosenfield was among the earliest to voice the ethical challenges of decreasing transmission of HIV to newborns by treating mothers with antiretroviral drugs before delivery, without consideration of ongoing care and treatment of mothers. He has spearheaded programs in resource-poor settings that not only prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV but also provide comprehensive clinical services to women.

In light of Dr. Rosenfield's countless contributions toward improving the health of individuals globally—as a researcher, an advocate, an educator and as a compassionate human being—it is fitting to name the ASPH-CDC Global Health Fellowship Program in honor of Allan Rosenfield.

The fellows in this program, who are graduates of the Nation's accredited schools of public health, are trained to help prevent HIV infection, improve care and support, and build capacity to address the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. Fellows also participate in immunization program activities in support of global polio eradication, measles mortality reduction, regional measles elimination, and general global immunization activities. They receive mentoring and support from dedicated CDC employees in the field. The mission of this fellowship program is to train the next generation of global health leaders, and it is fitting that this program honor an individual who is a foremost leader in global health.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Allan Rosenfield Global Health Fellowship,

most appropriately named after a person whom I, and many others, admire and respect for his relentless dedication and remarkable achievements in preventing disease and saving lives worldwide. I would like to honor and thank him for his many years of work.●

WOODBURY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, WOODBURY, MINNESOTA

● Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, today I wish honor Woodbury Senior High School, in Woodbury, MN, which will soon receive an Award for Excellence in Education for its exceptional and innovative achievements in educating children.

Woodbury Senior High School is truly a model of educational success. This large, suburban high school has consistently ranked above the national and State averages in ACT test scores and Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment scores and has been designated as a five-star school in reading and math by the Minnesota Department of Education for 2 years in a row. Schools receiving the five-star status are few and far between: Last year, 11 schools in the Twin Cities metropolitan area qualified for this status; this year, only 8 metro-area schools qualified. These scores show that top students continue to grow academically and also that all students continue to perform well above expectations.

Success at Woodbury High does not occur without the hard work and dedication of all students and staff. In addition to their classroom responsibilities, the teaching staff at Woodbury High are engaged in professional learning communities. Teachers meet in groups each week to study student learning and compare test scores and other objective data to determine areas of need. Then each group discusses best practices for teaching, in order to improve all students' learning. These professional learning communities have resulted in better course grades, as well as improved test scores on state and national measures of student proficiency.

Course work calls for high standards of performance at all levels. For advanced learners, Woodbury High offers advanced placement classes in English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The staff is working to develop more AP classes to meet students' needs. Each year, more than 250 AP tests are given in the school, with better than 75 percent of these students qualifying for college credit. This rigor translates into ACT scores above the State and national averages. Last year, Woodbury High students averaged a composite score of 23.5 on the ACT test. Students requiring more academic attention may enter the Program for Success in grades 10, 11, and 12 in order to earn credit for on-the-job experience along with academic credits. These classes are kept small and are taught by teachers who take personal responsibility for their students' success.